THE GENESEE FARMER.

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COMMUNICATIONS.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

The climate of the Genesee country, considerably differs from that of the sea coast in the same parallels of latitude. We have less sunshine in winter, owing to the condensed exhalations of our lakes; and day and night have a more equal temperature. Our snows are more durable,—commonly swept off by warm southerly winds,—seldom melted by the sun. In summer, not more subject to the drought; but back from the *two* great lakes, the air is evidently drier than on the sea coast.

Even as far south as Philadelphia, perhaps the mercury sinks as low in the thermometer; but their warm sunshine revives many a southern plant, which has barely endured their clear nights of intense frost. Long continued cold is more fatal to some plants, than greater cold of short duration. In 1794, Fahrenheit's thermometer at London, was 20 deg. below Zero, yet many plants abide their winters, which are here considered tender.

In regard to tender plants, however, we have something yet to learn. I have observed that *some* shrubs, planted in autumn, weakened by lacerated roots and branches, have perished in winter, when the same kinds are unquestionably hardy, after their roots are established in the ground, the wood matured, and a scaly bark protects them from the frost. Such ought therefore to be shielded from the severity of winter till their vigor is fully restored.

These remarks have detained me from some brief comments on M. Floy's list.

He has omitted the black maple, (*Acer nigrum*) remarkable for its dense foliage. It is a native of the Genesee country, and may be distinguished by its dark green leaves, with lopped lobes, pubescent on their under side. I know of no finer shade tree.

I found *Cupressus disticha* rather tender, but have hopes of its recovery.

Cupressus thyoides is an elegant evergreen. One of nearly three feet in diameter, stands in Bartram's Botanic Garden, planted by the eminent founder of that ancient establishment. I set out three small trees late in autumn, carefully bent them to the ground when the cold became severe, and they now repose under inverted sods. I find it profitable to treat many newly transplanted shrubs, both deciduous and evergreen, in this manner.

The blue-ash of the Western States (*Fraxinus quadrangulata*) I believe has not been introduced into any of the great nurseries. It is a fine stately tree, splits freely, and deserves cultivation. Some of our citizens who visit the Sciota country in autumn, might easily procure seeds.

Three species of the *Larch* are known in this country—two natives and one exotic. Our farmers well know the red larch (*Pinus microcarpa*) by the name of *Tamarack*, (perhaps a corruption of *Tamarix*, which it resembles in foliage.) It appears to grow equally well in deep swamps, and on the driest hills. It is a tree of great beauty.

Magnolia tripetala, and *M. glauca*. I have not been successful with these fine flowering trees, which, when young, require protection in this climate.

The white elm (*Ulmus Americana*) constitutes a remarkable feature in the scenery of the Genesee Country. Its gigantic stature, and elegantly recurved branches, have long excited the admiration of foreigners. There is another large elm in our forests (*Ulmus racemosa*) which has lately been figured and described in Silliman's Journal.

I have not been successful in *transplanting* the weeping willow: in one case the bark was injured by the hot sun:—but I have completely succeeded with cuttings. From one about a foot long and half an inch diameter, set in common soil, I had a tree, in one season, five feet high. We have several, very flourishing and perfectly hardy. D. T.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

GRAFTING THE VINE.

FRIEND TUCKER—Prince, in his new work, "Treatise on the Vine," in the article on the subject of ingrafting, makes the following statement and assertions,—"The vine differs from other trees in having no liber, or inner bark, nor cortical coverings, and it consequently may be ingrafted, without its being requisite to bring the two barks in contact, as the sap ascends by the different capillary vessels, without any distinction between liber, cortex, or wood, whilst the sap of other trees is exclusively conducted between the wood and bark."

Now this to me is entirely new doctrine, and one which I am strongly inclined to controvert. In the first place, I assert that the vine has a parenchymatous, or outer, dead and excremental bark, analagous to the Epidermis of the forest tree, which in old subjects it casts off more or less every year; and within that bark certainly is another, which answers to the cortical coverings and layers of trees and shrubs; and next to the wood is a fine membrane or *cambium* during the vegetating season, as I have frequently observed in attempting to bud the vine.

All of these points are in my mind facts, and which every one familiar with the vine or vegetable phytology, will at once recognise as such.

Again the text asserts that "the sap ascends by the different capillary vessels, without any distinction between liber, cortex, or wood, whilst the sap of other trees is exclusively conducted between the wood and the bark.

On this last point, it is the first time that I have heard that the sap of trees is conducted between the wood and bark, for I supposed it was settled that the sap ascended through the alburnum, and descended between the wood and bark; and that such is the case, not only with trees, but with the vine itself, I have only to cite his own theory of "Girdling or incissure," commonly called *Ringing*, (to the truth of which I can bear ample testimony, having performed it in numerous instances with great effect) to prove the fallacy of his assertion, that the sap ascends through all of its organs, indiscriminately; for by girdling, the whole sap is stopped in the parts above the incissure, and which continue to enlarge, while the parts below remain entirely stationary, which incontrovertibly shows that the sap does not ascend by the bark, and will not descend, if the vine is girdled; therefore we are to presume that the whole operation is the same as in other subjects.

There is a great discrepancy between the treatise, and the points above stated, which for the benefit of the science, I should like to see explained.

I have, always been a sceptic on the subject of grafting the vine at all, having never been able to succeed in the operation, but friend Prince asserts its feasibility, and gives the minutiæ of manipulation with so much confidence, and cites such practical authorities, that I am even constrained to believe it.

Another point in reference to this subject, and I have done; where it is stated that it is not necessary for the bark in grafting to join in any point, and that a cutting in the form of a peg, stuck into a hole bored in the end of a large stock, will succeed as well as in any other method; all of which is so at variance with my notions of the process of ingrafting, that nothing short of occular proof will ever remove my doubts. And here let me observe, that it is in all cases recommended that the operation should be performed *below the surface and well earthed up*. Now I would ask whether from the well known ease with which cuttings *strike*, as it is technically termed, they would not vegetate if *well earthed up*, if it was inserted in a dead vine, or in a "cherry," or even in a potato? It most certainly would, as that operation could be no hindrance to its taking root, as an ordinary cutting, if well earthed up, seldom fails; and in my opinion, the process of grafting under ground, needs examination, to see whether the cion does not throw out its roots, above the point of contact, and independently of the stock in which it is set. And yet after all, I will not undertake to say but that the vine may be ingrafted; it is an easy process to try, and within the reach of proof in the right season, to any person who has the least curiosity that way, and therefore I will only say *nous verrons*.

If any of thy readers have any practical experience on the subject, I should be very much gratified by their communication through thy interesting Journal.

With the work generally I am well pleased; it is for its volume, a complete Encyclopedia of the vine: the descriptions are full and complete, both as to foreign and domestic varieties; and the comparative advantages of cultivating the different sorts, are honestly and ably laid down; together with extensive and elaborate directions as to soil, climate and cultivation, and will prove that *desideratum* so long and imperiously wanted, to secure success in its cultivation; *an object which is not of secondary importance to any, except the production of silk, that our country possesses natural abilities for, that is not yet generally introduced.* H. Y.

West Bloomfield, 12th 2d mo. 1831.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

The *Snow-Ball*, or Guelder Rose, and the *High Cranberry*, of our swamps, take, readily, by inoculation, each on the other. To me, a Snow-Ball Tree, covered with flowers in spring, and loaded with the fruit of the High Cranberry, in autumn, and through the winter, is a novel spectacle, though not rare. Both the snow-ball and the cranberry, however, in the garden, are so apt to be loaded with insects, that I have had to cut down all the bushes, with their leaves, for two summers in succession. I had rather forego the pleasure of this *new family alliance*, than breed such hosts of enemies, especially in a garden. S.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

The excellent advice respecting SLIPS by *, [page 29] has suggested the inquiry whether the glasses ought not to be shaded from the hot sun? and ought not the clipping of the leaves to be confined to such as would be covered by the the earth or mould? The following extract relative to *layers*, from Loudon's *Encyclopedia of Plants*, exactly accords with my experience in the treatment of *cuttings*.

"Most cultivators cut off many of the leaves and shoots of *layers*, when they are first taken off, thinking the roots will not have so much to nourish, which is the very reason they often lose a great part of their crop; layers of any kind of shrub whatever, when first taken off, should not have a single leaf taken off till they have made fresh root: supposing their tops flag ever so much, as long as there is life, it will draw up the sap, and help the plant to root afresh."

In the early part of last summer, I cut a stalk of the *golden-lotus chrysanthemum*, planted it in a pot, leaving on all the leaves above the earth, and set it in the shade. It is a tall variety; and the top withered and drooped so much, that to keep it upright, I had to tie it to

a stick in different places: yet after a few weeks it rooted, and flowered in autumn.—On the contrary, I have never succeeded with one of those cuttings from which I removed the large leaves. * *

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

GREEN-HOUSE PLANTS.

The unusually cold weather of the present season has proved seriously injurious to many green house plants, as few buildings, not particularly prepared for the purpose, are proof against cold, so long continued; and it is not unfrequently the case, that plants become feeble for want of experience in their managers, and consequently perish by a slight frost, which they would have resisted, had their vital action been healthy. Light, Heat and Air, are indispensable to the healthy growth of plants; but as these cannot be supplied in the cold season, with sufficient regularity, it is advisable, at this time, that while we guard against frost, we also avoid that degree of heat that would cause tender plants to form new shoots; for they may be kept in a state perfectly healthy, for a considerable length of time, without growing; and such is the constitution of most plants, that their growths are periodical, requiring intervals of rest.

When the heat is such as to promote vegetation, where a sufficient quantity of light and air cannot be furnished, plants will always send up slender and long jointed shoots, of a pale and sickly hue, tending to exhaust the root, to unfit the whole plant for the functions of a healthy vegetation, and to expose it to every casualty. To prevent these evils, expose your plants to as much light and air as you can, without danger of frost, and avoid a redundancy of water. If the earth appears dry on the surface, some suppose water is immediately necessary, but this is not always the case. If on removing a little of the surface you find the earth moist, that is, sufficient for this season of the year, and when water is needed, supply it in small quantities, until the winter is so far passed that you may reasonably expect to supply the necssary light, heat, and air, when you may water a little more freely; always observing that aloes and all succulent plants require less water than others.

When plants are slightly frozen, they may generally be preserved with but little injury, by raising their temperature gradually, with cold water. This may be done by setting the pot in a tub, and sprinkling it freely with a watering pot; or if the plant be small it may be entirely immersed until the leaves are softened. I succeeded last winter in saving some of the tenderest geraniums, although repeatedly frozen; and a bearing orange tree had the surface of the earth in the pot, frozen hard for several days, yet some of the fruit, which was then about half grown, remained on; it has since ripened, and proved good. S. C.

Linden Hill, 2d mo.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

SHEEP.

Otsego, Feb. 7, 1831.

There has always been much said in all agricultural publications, respecting the different breeds of cattle, sheep and hogs, insomuch that some are almost led to believe, that unless they are fortunate enough to procure some of the favored breeds, they may as well give up raising stock, as to be troubled with it. Now Messrs. Editors, I consider this all fudge. I have noticed that those farmers who pay most attention to feeding their stock, become celebrated for their choice breeds. Suffer me, therefore, to give you a history of an instance of this kind:

During the early settlement of this county, a family by the name of Tonecliff came to reside in this county. The man had considerable taste, as to farming operations, was something of an horticulturist, and introduced many valuable kinds of fruits among us—as the green gage plum, and several other varieties. He took much pains with his flock of sheep, so that previous to the merino speculation, he had become famous abroad for his particular breed of sheep, which was generally reported he brought from England with him, as he came from that country. Farmers would come from fifty to an hundred miles to purchase the Tonecliffe breed of sheep, for which they would pay from five to fifteen dollars, and go home well satisfied.

This gentleman, finding the rage for his breed of sheep, was willing to keep their history out of sight; not that he wished to deceive any one, by telling them what was not true; but perhaps he did not choose to tell more than was inquired for, to his own disadvantage. This rage, for this particular breed of sheep, was quite considerable, and brought many an honest dollar to the family. A friend of mine happened to be conversing with him as to his breed of English sheep, he replied, "that his sheep were no more English than his neighbour's, for they were sheep that he procured in that part of the country." This rather surprised my friend, who had been led, from their size and shape, to consider them as a distinct breed: "but," continued he, "I can tell you where the difference has originated; when the butchers or drovers come to purchase sheep of you, you allow them to select, but when they come to purchase of me, I select for them."

I have every reason to believe that this fine flock of sheep was brought to that desirable perfection by a course of breeding in and in, and that too in the course of twelve or fifteen years. What encouragement to young farmers, to begin early to improve their stock; and should this communication induce any one to commence a similar experiment, either with cattle, sheep or hogs, it will have answered the purpose for which it was intended, by

Yours, &c. T. P.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

CURE FOR SALT RHEUM.

A few weeks ago, a member of my family had *salt rheum* on the hands, of more than 9 months continuance; and latterly it formed a spot of an inch diameter, on the face. This disease is well known to subtract largely from personal comfort.

A case was mentioned of a neighbor, whom *salt rheum* had nearly covered. She was told to take *nitric acid*, (aqua fortis) *and vinegar in equal portions*, and apply a drop or two at a time, to the skin. She hesitated, and consulted the family physician. He said it would kill her. However, she determined to try it—applied a little with a feather to one spot—bore the smart—and after an interval, applied it to another spot. She became entirely well, and well she has continued.

This account encouraged our inmate also to make a trial. The nitric acid and vinegar was applied, with the end of the finger.—*In four or five weeks there was not a trace of salt rheum remaining*, and nothing unfavorable to health has been observed. VERITAS.

FOR THE GENESEE FARMER.

THE ECLIPSE.

No achievement of science is so likely to appear supernatural to an illiterate savage as the fore-knowledge of *Eclipses*. It is one of the last pretensions that would be allowed, without occular demonstration, or a knowledge of Astronomy; yet occular demonstration has been so often repeated, that neither man, woman, nor child stands in doubt when an eclipse is predicted. Ignorant of the principles, however, by which those results are obtained, the populace credit the astronomer for a knowledge of the weather, as well as of the stars.—And why not? ought he not to be better acquainted with the movements of the clouds which are so near us, than with the motion of the planets? If he can foretell eclipses, why can't he foretell the weather?

I was led to these reflections, by hearing a prediction that the cold will be so intense tomorrow, during the eclipse, that many people will perish. It is mortifying to him who feels any pride in his countrymen, to know that a fable so ridiculous, should gain a moment's serious attention; or that well-dressed people in genteel companies should indirectly avow their belief, by asking, "Would it not be very strange, if it should so happen? Don't you think it would be very remarkable?" I think it would be very remarkable, if such folks believe in the diurnal motion of the earth; or know why the sun strays off so far to the south in winter. Q.

Feb. 11.

FOR THE GNNESEE FARMER.

MESSRS. EDITORS—To your correspondent R. K.'s inquiry, whether from the appearance of a green dye in one case, and a dark blue precipitate in another, which he supposes were produced from an extract from green hemlock boughs, immersed in water, in making new roads, there could not be indigo contained, as the appearance was analagous to that article, I would answer—that the hemlock is known to contain a large quantity of tannin, and considerable of the Gallic acid, or astringent principle, which if the water, as it frequently does in particular soils, contains any iron in solution, the same appearance would be induced as he describes; and it is most likely attributable to that cause, as from the familiarity of that article with almost every one, if it contained as important a principle as the constituents of indigo, I think something of the kind would have been discovered before. Y.*

SELECTIONS.

Selected for the Genesee Farmer, by D. T.

From Lawrence's Gardening, printed in 1717.

VILLAGE GARDENS.

Because both grass and gravel walks are so much the ornament and beauty of a garden, and do afford so considerable a pleasure to a thoughtful, contemplative person, I cannot but here insert *a speedy effectual method of destroying worms*, those filty annoyers and spoilers of the beauty of all walks.

At any time in autumn, fill a cistern, or any large trough, with water, putting thereinto a large quantity of walnut leaves, where let them steep at least a fortnight or three weeks; in which time the water will have received such a bitterness, that if you pour gently a small quantity of it on such places as are most annoyed with worms; by that time the water can be supposed to reach them, you will find the worms hurrying in great confusion out of their holes, so as to crawl in great plenty under your feet, upon the ground, when they may be gathered up and thrown away. They may indeed be taken by a candle and lantern in a summer's evening, after rain; but this may be practiced at any time in the day, with pleasure, and it will certainly destroy them, if it be but carefully practiced, and repeated; only be sure to put walnut leaves enough, that the water may be very bitter, otherwise it will do no good.

VILLAGE GARDENS.

Selected for the Genesee Farmer, by D. T.

From Sir John Sinclair's Code of Agriculture.

Round many villages and small towns, gardens of moderate size are numerous and productive. *It is a fortunate circumstance, when manufacturers and mechanics take a delight in them;* since their health is promoted by the exercise in the open air, for which an opportunity is thus afforded; while at the same time, any tendency to immorality is greatly checked by an agreeable and useful means of occupation. The village garden is frequently the retreat of the occupier, in the summer evenings, after the labours of the day, where he agreeably employs himself, in watching over the progress of his crops, and the success of his exertions.

In those manufacturing villages, or small towns, where a number of inhabitants have

gardens, a taste for keeping them in good order is prevalent, and *few instances of dissipation occur.* In such gardens, not only aromatic herbs and medicinal plants, are cultivated, but flowers of various sorts are raised, as carnations, pinks, auriculæ, polyanthus, &c. by the sale of which some money is obtained. The Florist Society at Paisley in Scotland, is a sufficient proof of the advantage to be derived from directing the attention of manufacturers to such innocent pursuits. *The rearing of beautiful flowers is found to improve their taste* for manufacturing elegant patterns of fancy muslin; while *the florists of Paisley have long been remarked for the peacefulness of their dispositions, and the sobriety of their manners.*

SMALL FARMS—COLLECTING MANURES.

The great principles of agriculture may be reduced to these two points: *keep small farms and manage them well.* What constitutes a small farm, or in what consists good management, are subjects deeply affecting the best interests of society, and have engaged volumes of the most philanthropic writings. The pages of a work, limited in size, and devoted to various purposes, can afford but a short review of a subject so comprehensively useful; yet, by entering directly into real matter, and avoiding the prolixity of books, much instruction and benefit may be obtained at an expense of money and time comparatively small.

An anxiety to grow rich has done more injury and produced more disappointment to farmers, than to any other class of fortune hunters; the merchant, who not only risks his entire capital, but also his utmost credit on a single voyage, may succeed even beyond his calculation, and may, at once, increase his fortune and enlarge his credit: the mechanic, who risks all on a single project, may succeed to riches and its comforts; but the farmer, who enlarges his fields beyond his actual means of cultivating them, never succeeds in his design.

Land badly tilled and badly fenced, produces a small crop, which not unfrequently becomes a prey to the inroads of cattle, or suffers for want of hands to secure it in harvest; yet such must be the fate of *large* farms, that is, farms exceeding the disposable means of the proprietor. No general rule can be laid down to determine the proper size of a farm, as it must be regulated by a whole view of the farmer's means, family, &c.; but in choosing a farm, it would be a prudent maxim to prefer one even apparently too small, to one that might prove too large; and perhaps the generality of farmers, who look merely to the support of a family, might do well to confine their industry, in the first instance, to fifty acres of land, exclusive of the necessary proportion of woodland. The result would prove so decisively the superior advantages of small farms, as more than probably to induce the farmer to continue his industry on a scale, which would yield so much in point of crops, save so much labor, render a frequent view of the entire farm, and the collecting of the produce to the barn so convenient.

"But," says the farmer, who has six or eight children, "fifty acres will not suffice to support my family." It may be replied, and with more truth, "no, nor one hundred acres," because of the undeniable fact, that one hundred acres badly tilled, will produce *less* than fifty acres, well managed; and that the labour necessary to the good tillage and management of the small farm, will not be sufficient even for the slovenly management of the large one.

It is unnecessary to describe, how a large farm may be ruined, in the case of a proprietor whose capital is small; every practical farmer can explain, and the most superficial view of hundreds of such farms, to be seen in all directions, will at once convince the doubtful.—It only remains to see how the farmer and his family can be supported, on a farm of fifty acres.

The skilful farmer will keep his lands in a state of constant productiveness; the most injudicious management, or the most apparent neglect, can alone cause land to remain for years, or even for a season, without contributing to the farmer's sustenance; this state, however, seldom fails to attend large farms.—A rotation of crops, and a supply of manure, will secure this constant productiveness. Every farmer is a sufficient judge of the managing a rotation of crops, and, in some measure, acts on that principle; but the mind and labor are so divided in the care of large farms, that neither can be brought to act with sufficient judgment or effect. A proper disposition of cattle, added to a judicious collecting of manure, will always produce the means of enriching and invigorating the soil, nor can there ever appear any want of a sufficient supply of manure for every purpose of the farm.

The collecting of compost, or manure, being indispensable to the farmer, it shall be here first attended to. Compost is to be considered, both as to its quantity and its quality.—The quantity may be increased by mixing clay, or other unfermented matter with the manure; the entire mass will partake of the salts, and all ferment together. The quality, which seems of more importance than the quantity, may be improved by choosing a proper site for the manure heap. It should not be made in a hole, because the rain water will soon fill the hole and chill the manure; which should, in order to fermentation, preserve a considerable heat: it should not be made on a hill, because the water passing through it, will carry away its most valuable part; nor should it be entirely excluded from the air, which is essentially useful to it. With these general observations in view, the farmer will easily contrive a proper plan for collecting a sufficiency of rich compost for all the uses of his farm, which thus plentifully supplied, will never degenerate into a barren waste. The manure heap should be placed near the farm yard, so that the rotten straw, bedding of the cattle, &c. may be easily removed to it; a sewer or gutter should also be contrived to carry off the urine from the cattle's stalls, to a reservoir near the manure; and finally, it should be collected on a flat spot of ground, so hard as to be, if possible, impervious to the juices, which would otherwise sink into the earth and be totally lost.—*N. Y. Farmer.*

BOTTS IN HORSES.

A writer in the American Farmer, states the following as a sure remedy for the botts in horses, and says it was practiced by a veterinary surgeon, who came to this country during the revolution, with Baron Steuben:

First, drench the horse with a quart of new milk, saturated with honey, molasses, or sugar, (to be preferred in the order in which they are named;) leave him two hours, at rest; drench him again with a pint of strong brine, previously made, by dissolving in boiling water as much common salt as it will hold, and leave the horse undisturbed two hours more. Then administer half a pint of linseed oil, and the treatment is complete.

The *rationale* of this course, according to the writer, is as follows: Botts destroy horses by feeding upon and destroying the integuments of the stomach; but, preferring sweetened milk to flesh diet, they leave the substance of the stomach, and glut on the milk, of which they partake so much, that they are greatly distended, exposing a thin skin to the action of the brine, when administered, which easily destroys them. Oil is afterwards given, to heal the wounds in the stomach, made by the worms.

John Hinds, in his Treatise on Farriery, (a work which should be in the hands of every man who has the charge of horses,) attributed the generation of worms to irregular feeding and to feeding upon indigestible substances, musty hay, grain, &c. and in some aged horses to imperfect mastication. These causes produce indigestion, and ultimately worms. Mr. Hinds recommends, that, when it is certainly ascertained the horse is attacked by worms, the following bolus or ball be administered: Calomel, 1 1-2 drachms; Annis seed, 5 drachms, mixed with treacle, into a paste, for two doses, to be given on two successive nights; the first dose to be preceded by water gruel, and the last one to be followed, the next day, by a purgative compound of, Barbadoes aloes, 4 drachms, Gamboge, 1 1-2 drachms, prepared kali 2 drachms, ginger 1 drachm, oil of amber a tea-spoonful, syrup of buckthorn sufficient to form the whole into a ball for one dose.—Should the horse be weakly, the first mixture may be divided into three doses, for as many successive days, to be followed on the fourth morning after by the purgative. The horse in the mean while should be fed with fresh grass, cracked corn, mashed potatoes, or other food easily digestible; accompanied occasionally with salt. As the disease is produced by impaired digestive organs, it must be cured by restoring to these organs their healthful tone, towards which, the medicines recommended, have a favorable tendency.

COLUMBUS.

A correspondent of the Macon Telegraph, who writes from Havana, thus describes the tomb of Columbus:

"My first pilgrimage has been made to the tomb of Columbus. I need not say it is the most splendid I have ever seen, for I have never seen any thing which can be placed in comparison with it. It stands within the walls, and under one of the most splendid domes of the cathedral; its form is that of a temple surrounded with pillars, standing on a massive basement or pedestal, in front of which there is a small portal between four miniature columns, within which the box containing his remains is said to be deposited—within the temple is a statue about three feet in height. The material of the whole temple is of the most beautiful Italian marble, and is said, by travellers who have visited Italy, that they have never seen so beautiful a piece of sculpture there or elsewhere. It was made entirely in Italy, and brought ready to be set up here.—The morning I attended mass, at the cathedral, the tomb of Columbus was surrounded with candlesticks, I should think near three feet in height, of massive gold, while every thing around corresponded in style and richness of ornament. The cathedral itself far surpasses any thing I had ever seen or hardly imagined, in the beauty and style of its architecture—of its length, breadth, width or height, I will not undertake to form what I would call a correct opinion; for the eye and mind of the visiter are so deeply impressed with the awe and solemnity of such a scene, as to be wholly unprepared to make estimates of measurement. Its high towering domes, its massive columns and arches, its beautiful statuary and paintings, all strike the eye with wonder, in which the mind is lost in thought. Add to this the impressive solemnity of the rites and ceremonies, which were constantly going on at the shrines and confessionals, which were so distant, that the priests were out of the reach of each other's voices, you will not be surprised that I was impressed with feelings beyond description."

Natural history is no work for one that loves his chair or his bed. Speculation may be pursued on a soft couch, but Nature must be observed in the open air.—*Johnson.*

It is wonderful that old men should remember more accurately what happened fifty years ago, than the affairs of the last week. The brains of old men are like hard wax, tenacious of old impressions, and not very susceptible of new.

THE GENESEE FARMER.

SATURDAY, FEB. 26, 1831.

DIFFERENT BREEDS OF CATTLE.

[Continued from page 52.]

In our last number, we noticed some of the most approved breeds of cattle—in this, we mention others that are still reared to considerable extent in England.

The Herefordshire cattle—These somewhat resemble the Devonshire breed, being of a deep red color, with a white face. They have thin hides, and fine hair, are more moderate in their motions, than the Devons. They are well proportioned for beef or milkers, being heavy in the hind quarters, which have rather a bony appearance, tolerably strait on the back, neck rather descending, the head small and clean, and carried rather low. They are thin and light in the fore quarters, narrow in the chine, but a full surloin, they fatten young, and are considered by many of the English graziers, as being next to the Holderness in excellence, and dairy men say their milk is very rich.

The polled breed—These are raised more in Scotland than England, and some of them have been brought to this country. The color of this breed is mostly black. They are strait and round in their build; the head is short, but carried well up; general features rather dull than otherwise; strait on the back, broad on the loin, round in the hind quarters, and rather light; short legged, with a heavy bushy tail; and the hair is longer than on most breeds. In size, they are below the Lancashire breed, but are said to arrive at maturity young. They are not in high estimation for the dairy, and are only grown in those parts of the country where the breeding of fine cattle is neglected.

Each of the above breeds. as described in this and the preceding number of our paper, have had their advocates; some preferring large, others small breeds of cattle; but I believe the best breeders, both in the United States and England, are now agreed that the difference in size of breeders, is not so important as the shape. Bakewell, who was one of the first breeders in England, gave a preference to the Lancashire breed, which he consierded were raised at less expense than any others. Others again maintain, that the Holderness, or short horned breed, excell every other for dairy and for beef; while the farmer, who is wishing to raise oxen for the yoke, prefers the Devonshire.

If farmers would be more careful in the selection of the stock from which they intend to breed, even with the common cattle of the country, fine stock might be raised, with careful feeding. And here let me observe, that the best breeders are now satisfied that as much depends on the selection of the dam as the sire, both with cattle and horses, and large females are allowed to be best in both; the health, strength, and proportion, then, of these, become equally as important as the sire, not only in giving proportion, but in giving support after they have brought forth their young.—Therefore, almost as much advantage might be gained in breeding cattle, to select the best cows from our present breeds, as to import fine bulls and neglect this selection.

In short, the first point to be gained on this subject is, to get up an excitement sufficient to make farmers seek for information; or a spirit of inquiry, which, when once started, will always beget ambition, or a wish to excel, which will be attended with a lasting benefit to our country.

GEOLOGY.

THE VALLEY OF THE GENESEE.

[Continued from page 36.]

Next above the gray-band is a mixed formation, if we include all the variety between the gray band and the *Lias*, in one. As modern geologists have adopted this course, and have included them all under the head of *Feriferous sand rock*, we will follow them, but describe the different layers, and their effect upon the soil. Directly above the gray-band, there is a layer of magnesian slate, of a light green colour, having a peculiar soft soapy feel; it readily disintegrates, or falls to pieces, on being exposed to the air. It forms a tenaceous soil from the quantity of clay which it contains, as the layer is thin; we do not know of any large fields where this predominates. Above this lies layers of feriferous sand-rock, which are very hard, containing many bivalve shells; in short, some of the stones seem almost entirely composed of them. Many specimens are agatized, and fine specimens of chalcedony are found among them. These stones are very hard and durable; although they do not decompose readily, yet the soil where they out crop is generally strong and light, and of a rusty iron colour. Alternating with these layers, and near the centre of this formation, is the layer of conglomerate argillaceous iron ore, varying in thickness from one to four feet. In some localities, this ore may be shovelled like coarse sand; in others, the particles are cemented together by a carbonate of lime, to the hardness of common lime stone. This layer of iron ore may be traced from the high lands, west of the little falls, on the Mohawk river, through the state of New York, and into Upper Canada, on the north of Lake Ontario.—The iron made from it is coarse, hard and brittle, and of little worth, except for sleigh shoes, plough irons, &c. Stoves and hollow ware made from it almost invariably crack by heating and cooling. In some places this ore is ground into Spanish brown. As the whole of the feriferous formation in this region, is not more than forty or fifty feet thick; its character on the surface is limited.

Next in progression we come to the *Lias*, or calcifirous slate. This is a more important formation in Agriculture, and the general thickness of it may be calculated at about one hundred feet. It is through this formation that most of the celebrated falls, in the western part of the United States, descend, viz—the falls of Niagara, of the Genesee at Rochester, and the falls of St. Anthony, on the Mississippi. The component parts of this rock are different at different localities. It contains sulphate and carbonate of lime, magnesia, iron, silex, and a large proportion of allumine, or clay. In this formation are found beds of sulphate of lime or gypsum, and water lime or hydraulic cement. When it is decomposed, this rock makes a very excellent soil, both for wheat and grass; it is very retentive of moisture, and is not as apt to suffer from drought, as limestone land. Manure lasts longer on this than on sandy land. In some places the soil from this rock has sufficient clay in it for brick making.

This is the superincumbent formation over a very considerable extent of country, on both sides of the Genesee river, north of the limestone formation. From the nature of this rock it is capable of absorbing water and giving it off again by capillary attraction, to the soil above, and it is owing to this quality that soils formed from and upon this rock, are capable of enduring the drought for a longer time, than those upon impervious rocks, where the water passes down through the cracks which are too large for its return by capillary attraction, and such rocks being impervious to the water do not retain any water to soften the soil by evaporation. There is no doubt but this rock taken up at such places as are undergoing decomposition, and carried upon our thin light sandy soils, would prove an excellent manure; the effect would be similar to putting on clay, which is found to be a great strengthener of such soils.

The beds of gypsum found in this formation are of importance to this western country, as upon some soils it has a powerful influence in promoting vegetation, and it is likewise useful as a cement, as it is now found, that the celebrated cement with which the Romans laid their baths and aqueducts, was nothing more than the sulphate of lime, or gypsum, having its water of crystalization driven off by heat, in a manner very similar to our burning lime; after which it was pounded fine, and on adding water it soon hardened, and was very durable, as we have examined some of these works which have been done nearly fifteen hundred years, without being able to discover any signs of failure in the cement.

MAPLE SUGAR.

This is the season to prepare for manufacturing this article, which is one of the purest of sweets, and may be made into the finest loaf-sugar. For catching the sap, pails or buckets are preferable to troughs, and may be made almost as cheap; and when we take into consideration the ease with which they are handled, and their durability, compared with troughs, we think the latter should be rejected. We have seen buckets made with one stave longer than the others, through which was a hole for the purpose of hanging it upon a nail, driven into the tree below the spout; this is a very neat and convenient way, as when the buckets are set down, they are sometimes turned over by the thawing of the snow.

If those farmers who have maple trees plenty, would provide themselves with two hundred buckets, they might manufacture all the sugar that they would want for their family use, and some to spare; for where the business is well attended to, there may be made about three pounds for each bucket, and a good sized tree will afford sap enough for about five pounds in a season. If proper vessels are used, one cord of wood will evaporate sap for two hundred pounds of sugar. One man with a horse or yoke of oxen and sled, will tend two hundred buckets; cutting his wood, collecting the sap, &c. The usual season for making sugar continues about one month, al-

though there are not more than from ten to fifteen days in the season, that are favorable for the running of the sap. During this time, a man armed as above, will make about six hundred pounds, worth nine cents per pound, or $54.

The cost of two hundred buckets, made suitably for this purpose, would be about $20—two kettles for boiling, about $15—making an outfit of $35.

Thus with the small expense of thirty-five dollars, in apparatus which will last 10 years, for which we will allow ten per cent, which added to the simple interest, would make the annual interest of about six dollars, which added to twenty-four dollars, as the wages of the man and horse, would amount to $30.

Thus for the amount of thirty dollars, a farmer who has plenty of maple trees, may furnish himself with six hundred pounds of sugar, equal to the best West India, provided the operation is well conducted. Thus it appears that the cost of maple sugar would be but five cents per pound, which is mostly paid in labor, and can be done in most families easier than to pay one half that sum in cash.—We hope those farmers who have not been in the habit of making their own sugar, will think the subject of sufficient magnitude to give it a fair trial, which would make a great saving to *Old Genesee.*

TERMINOLOGY.

Herb—a plant destitute of a woody stem.

Herbarium—a book in which specimens of plants are kept.

Imperfect—a flower which does not contain both stamens and pistils is imperfect.

Irritability—the contractile motion of plants.

Leafing season—that time when leaves make their appearance.

Lurid—of a pale, dull, deathly color.

Midrib—the middle rib of the leaf running from the stem to the apex.

Nectary—that part of a flower which contains honey.

Palmate—spreading like the hand.

Perfect-flower—having both stamens and pistils.

Phytology—treating of the principles of vegetables.

Plant—any substance growing from seed.

Pulpy—filled with a tenaceous kind of Parenchyma.

Raceme—arranged like a bunch of grapes.

Radicle—Small roots.

Runner—a side horizontal shoot, producing young plants.

Serate—notched like a saw.

QUESTIONS FOR FARMERS.

Have you got your wood cut and piled up for next summer?—examined your bees? got your buckets ready for making sugar—and spouts for tapping the trees? drawn your logs to the sawmill? racked off your cider—and bunged your casks tight? put your hams in the smoke house? threshed out all your grain? assorted your potatoes in the cellar? felled your trees for rails? collected your cions for grafting in the spring? repaired your carts, ploughs and harrows? settled with all your mechanics? dressed out your flax? taken a load of wood to the poor?—If you have done all these things, you have done well.

WOAD.

Rochester, Feb. 4, 1831.

Messrs. Editors—In the New England Farmer of the 28th ult. I observed an inquiry from a committee of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, on the culture of madder, barilla and woad. In 1826, I received a letter from Mr. Wm. Partridge, of New York, on the culture and properties of woad, which I send you for publication, in the Genesee Farmer.—Mr. Partridge is a practical man, and author of a valuable treatise on dying, and which I think also treats on the cultivation of madder.

I am, respectfully, &c. O. W.

As the want of room forbids our copying the letter at full length, we make the following extracts:

"Your inquiries relative to the woad plant, induces me to believe that you have an intention of raising it. A considerable quantity of that plant has been raised in different parts of America, both by individuals for personal use, and by cultivators for a market; but those who have engaged in it have been ignorant of what ought to be performed to insure a good article, and American woad is consequently in disrepute. Our market has been supplied mostly from England. German and French ball-woad has been imported to some extent, but owing to its being in a different state from the English, few of our workmen can use it, and for want of sales the importation is stopped. Woad is valuable in proportion to the coloring matter it contains, and as a fermentative medium to bring the indigo used with it to a state of deoxidizement. To perform the latter, any vegetable equally succulent, worked up in the same way would answer as well as woad. Its principal value, therefore, consists in the quantity of blue coloring feculæ contained in the plant.

"To obtain this disideratum, woad must be raised on a rich soil, not a soil that has been enriched by manure, but a naturally strong, rich soil; unless this can be obtained, it would be useless to make the attempt. Twenty acres of such land, divided into three parts, one third to be cropped every year would afford a pretty plentiful supply for the present market. Land will not bear more than two crops of woad in succession, not because it is weakened by cropping, but because after the second crop the land becomes so filled with white grubs, as to destroy the plants raised on it.

"Upon good land, two tons of woad can be raised on an acre—i. e. two tons when couched, by which process the weight is increased about twenty per cent."

The writer then proceeds to a description of the mode of rearing and preparing the plant for use, &c.

This plant was brought into notice by the ingenuity of Bonaparte during his reign, in order to render the nation independent of others for dying materials, and was shortly after introduced into English manufactories; but Loudon, a late English writer, of high repute, in speaking of it says, "At present it is to be considered more as a matter of curious historical information, or of local adoption, than of general utility; because no mode of cultivating or preparing woad could bring it into competition, either in the European or American market with indigo.

DUTCH SPINNAGE.

This is a hardy perennial plant, a native of Italy, and introduced into the gardens in England in 1573. It is a valuable plant, and should be found in every garden. We introduced this plant into several gardens, in this neighborhood, in 1825, and yet the plant is not generally known.

In growth and habit, it greatly resembles the common narrow leaved dock, which is so troublesome in rich meadows. The leaves, however, are much larger and more succulent. It is easily cultivated from seed sowed in the spring, in rows, or beds; and if a row is sowed by the south side of a fence, it will increase its precocity. Cover the plants in the fall with litter, or stable manure, which should be removed as soon as the frost is out of the ground in the spring, as the plants vegetate early.—The leaves should be gathered and dressed like other spinnage dishes, over which it has the advantage of being more easily cultivated, and not inferior in flavor.

If sowed in rows, the plants may be allowed to stand within four or six inches of each other in the row; and this is like most other spinnage plants, in one respect—the more thrifty the plant the better the leaves. Its leaves will be fit for use early in May, and will continue good for one month.

SEA-KALE—*Crambe Maritima, L.*

William H. Adams, Esq. Vice President of the Domestic Horticultural Society of the western part of New York, called at our office, on the 19th, and politely offered to send us a box of the Sea-kale; and also some Alpine strawberries, for the Monroe Horticultural Society. These will be forwarded on the opening of the canal, as a present from the above named gentleman. Notice of their arrival will be given, that they may be distributed to the members.

As the cultivation of this plant is not generally known in this section, we subjoin the following:

The Sea-Kale is a hardy perennial, which has been cultivated in the gardens of Europe, for the last hundred years. It is found growing, wild, on the sea coasts, in England, and some other parts of Europe. The inhabitants of those countries where it is a native, have been in the habit of gathering the young shoots of this plant for boiling, from time immemorial; and it is now ranked among the luxuries of the garden. The young shoots are blanched by inverting a box, or some other convenient article, (which shall exclude the light,) over them, when they begin to vegetate, which is early in the spring; by which means the young shoots become as crisp as asparagus, to which many prefer it, when dressed in the same manner. In its growth, when young, the leaves bear the greatest resemblance to cabbage, being covered with a beautiful bloom. As the stalk increases in height, the leaves become smaller, and indented, the flowers are white and fragrant, the seeds are produced in pods, which are round, and of the size of a pea, containing but one seed each. It is raised from seed, also propagated by offsets from old roots, which grow very readily; and as those who have attempted to raise the young plants from seeds, procured from New York, have almost invar

ably failed, I would recommend to propagate from roots, unless fresh seed can be procured as we are convinced the frequent failures have been owing to the seed procured, being too old. This plant, as the name indicates, is found growing wild upon the sea coasts, in the beach sand. From that circumstance, it is inferred that a sandy soil is most congenial to its growth. The plants, whether by seeds or cuttings, should be planted at least one foot apart in the beds, which should be made light and rich. One advantage in the culture of this plant, is, that it furnishes the table at that season of the year when fresh vegetables are highly prized. The months of April and May would be the time for eating it in this climate.

Ten or fifteen plants of sea-kale, well tended, would furnish a family with a good supply for the table, until other vegetables came in; after which time, it might be suffered to go up to seed.

As the leaf and stock are rather tender, it is necessary to support the plants intended for seed, by a stake, or some other method; for if the stalks are allowed to rest upon the ground, the seeds will be much injured.

SNOW STORM.

On the 22d, the wind blew in the morning lightly from the west; but veering about to the southeast by south, was stationary but not high in that direction for a number of hours. Towards evening, of a day which had been uncommonly mild and pleasant, the snow began to fall in large flakes, which it was prophecied would soon be succeeded by rain, but the temperature diminished slowly from a daily mean of 36° to below 30°, and the snow continued falling till the evening of 23d, when it measured about 12 inches. This, together with what was before on the ground, measured in the woods more than 2 feet; in the open field, from six to ten inches less. This storm, together with that of the first and second of this month, visited us from the southeast and east, and it would be interesting to know at what distance from us it commenced, and how far south, if at all, it was rain, and also its entire extent.

* * *

☞ We again invite the attention of our readers, and others, who have choice seeds, varities of fruit or breeds of stock, to make the same known to their brother farmers, through our columns, and those who have choice kinds of fruit trees, from which they are willing to distribute cions, may leave them at the office of the Genesee Farmer, for distribution, where they will be distributed gratis.

☞ We have been much gratified at the notice which our brother Editors have taken of the Genesee Farmer, by making extracts from our columns; and we will continue our exertions to make it useful to that class of community for which it was designed; but as some of them have neglected to give us credit for such extracts, we hope in future they will not forget the civilities due from one editor to another.

FEMALE AGRICULTURIST.

A young lady at Marblehead, has in her possession, a bed-quilt of her own manufacture, the cotton of which she planted, hoed, reaped and ginned with her own hands, while residing in the territory of Arkansas, a few years since. How many females in our country can boast as much?

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

From the Rochester Daily Advertiser.

DINNER TO LAFAYETTE.

The Americans, residents in Paris, on the 8th December last gave a dinner in honor of the great Apostle of Liberty to two hemispheres, Lafayette. One of the most celebrated houses in the city was selected on the occasion, and the room ornamented in an elegant and tasteful style, and decorated with the banners of the two nations in festoons.

The occasion was distinguished by the attendance of many of the first citizens of Paris, Mr. Cooper, the American novelist presided. Mr. Rives, the American minister at Paris, and Mon. Serurier, the French minister to this government, were both present. In announcing the toasts which had been previously prepared, the Chairman prefaced them with some few brief remarks, which served very much to increase the interest, and heighten the hilarity of the occasion.

The first toast announced was:

"Liberty and Order—the motto of freemen—without the last, the first has no existence; without the first, the last no guarantee."

And the second:

"The King of the French, and the source from which he derives his power."

This sentiment called up M. Serurier, who tendered his gratitude and acknowledgements in a brief but happy manner, and concluded by proposing,

"The President of the United States."

The Chairman then rose amid a profound silence.

"It is in calling your attention to the next toast," said Mr. Cooper, "that I most feel my insufficiency for the duty which has fallen to my share to-day. A glorious consummation has just been added to the acts of a long life, past in a constant struggle for the rights of the human race. We have met, gentlemen, to do honor to that ardent and chivalrous spirit, that rushed, uncalculating and devoted, to the rescue of the feeble and oppressed in the gloomy period of 1776—to the youth who was found worthy to sit in the council of Washton—to the enlightened individual, who, at a later day, contended with ignorance and prejudice in his native land—to the prisoner of Olmutz—to the fearless patriot, who directed the attention of a victorious warrior, at the head of his conquering legions, to the first and most solemn duties of a citizen—to the Senator who was foremost in withholding the sceptre from the grasp of a military dictator, and to the man on whom not only the eyes of France, but of the whole civilized world, were turned, in hope and confidence, a confidence that the result has nobly justified, in the hour of his country's greatest trial. This brief catalogue will recal to your minds the histories of the two hemispheres, and the great events of more than two ages, in which your illustrious guest has been a conspicuous actor. Since the last, and, perhaps, the most important of all these glorious achievements, homage, of the most unequivocal and flattering nature, has been the reward of his courage, his constancy, his disinterestedness, and his consistency. Admiration and respect have poured in upon him from every quarter, and this banquet, probably, is not the twentieth at which the public have chosen to exhibit their commendation in this particular form. If we have delayed the manifestation of our own feelings, it is not that we have estimated his conduct less, or that others have sympathized in his triumphs more. But admiration and respect are not the terms I could choose to use in describing the feelings which have now brought us together. Admiration and respect are tributes which Lafayette has extorted even from his enemies. Gentlemen, *we love him.*"

The speaker was here interrupted by a spontaneous and tremendous peal of applause.—The whole company rose as if it had but one soul, and delivered nine such cheers as have rarely been heard within the walls of Paris.—The venerable La Fayette was obviously and powerfully affected, his eyes suffusing with tears at so strong a mark of the affection of his hosts—"Yes, Gentlemen, and we have reason to love him." Mr. C. was again interrupted by a second burst of sympathy, scarcely less strong than the first. When silence was again obtained, he proceeded—"Perhaps the history of the world does not supply a parallel to that feeling which binds the community of which we are members, to the illustrious man who sits at your table—a parallel to a friendship which has been transmitted, among us, from generation to generation—to a friendship which has endured through good report, and evil report: through days of darkness and days of sunshine: through peace and war—to a friendship which has equally resisted the depression of defeat, and the allurements of success—to a friendship, Gentlemen, in which one of the parties is an individual, and the other an entire nation! Before such feelings, all political considerations, except as they may serve to strengthen our esteem, are momentarily lost; and I feel certain of meeting an answering sympathy in the bosom of every man who hears me, when I add, that we are not assembled to-day, more with the intent to do honor to him who has been so well termed the 'Patriarch of Liberty,' than to exhibit the reverence and affection of children towards a common father. (Another burst of applause.)—We will now fill to the brim—and drink—

"To the health and happiness of our venerated guest and friend,"

The good old man replied with a voice almost suppressed by the flow of genuine and generous emotions. He spoke of the vicissitudes of his long life, of the proud moment when in presence of the two houses of the American Congress he had been told from the representative chair, that in every instance on this side of the Atlantic, he had proved himself a genuine disciple of the American school, and a not unworthy son of Washington. He then proposed the following:

"To the American people, the first born and most highly gifted sons of independence and freedom—may they forever enjoy the blessings of federal union and self-government."

The Chairman next announced,

"The People and Institutions—The President and other Functionaries of the United States."

This was followed by an eloquent address from Mr. Rives, which we are obliged to omit from want of room. Mr. Rives then proposed the following toast, alike creditable to the representative abroad and the patriot and statesman at home. It breathes the perpetuity of our Union, free from *nullification* or clamors about disunion:

"*Our Federal Union*—the source of our respect and security abroad; the palladium of our liberties and happiness at home."

Toasts were given by several other gentlemen, among which was one by Mr. Lameth, a soldier of the American revolution, who had been severely wounded at the battle of Yorktown

Odillon Barrot, the republican leader, gave the Prosperity and happiness of the U. States.

One of the toasts though simple, we think peculiarly appropriate, and piquant. It is the following:

"The Paving Stone—Ultima ratio populi." Those who remember "the three days of French glory" will need no explanation.

The two last toasts were, "Universal Education," and "Home," after which the company withdrew.

New-York Markets.—The New-York Daily Advertiser of Saturday says: "No later dates than those noticed last week, viz: 4th of Jan. have been received from England. The market for Flour and Cotton, during the week, have rather declined. Ashes and Flax Seed have been in better request. The sales of Sugar, Coffee, and Molasses, have been more extensive. The weather has been more mild for several days, which has been more favorable for out-door business, and a change of wind has brought into port, a large fleet of vessels, which had been detained off the coast for several weeks."

In a late London paper, we observe the following paragraph respecting the navigation of the St. Lawrence:—

"It is not generally known, that the magnetic variation in the River St. Lawrence, is very erroneously stated in our charts. This circumstance, added to the great inaccuracy of the charts themselves, and the severity of the climate, have been the cause of the numerous shipwrecks which have occurred there. That the variation is wrongly given may be easily accounted for, by having been handed down by the original observations of Major Holland, about 60 years ago, faithfully preserved by his follower Des Barres; and as rigorously maintained by modern chart makers. Unfortunately as Columbus first found out, magnetic variation, as its name implies, is of a fickle nature, and quietly follows its own secret and mysterious laws. Since Major Holland's survey it has undergone a change of about half a point, and at Quebec is now 18 1-2 deg. at Bic Island 17 1-2 deg. at Cape Chat 21 deg. at the Bay of Seven Islands 23 1-2 deg. and at the west point of Anticosti 24 deg. westerly. The sudden and rapid change in it also between Quebec and Anticosti, in a distance of 350 miles, is another source of mischief to our traders, who, heedless of its importance, are mostly unacquainted with its extent. When overtaken by bad weather and they loose sight of the land, a wrong course is in consequence adopted, which proves fatal to their ships. There is no chart of the river St. Lawrence that can be of real service to its navigation, and. in consequence, the annual loss of property is great, and not unfrequently that of lives also. To remedy this evil, which was gaining importance, Commander W. H. Bayfield, R. N. was dictated by his present Majesty, when Lord High Admiral, to make a careful survey of this river, which should answer all the purposes of navigation throughout its extensive reefs and channels. This survey has since then been proceeding, and a plan of the harbor of Quebec made by Commander Bayfield has been published.—His charts of the river are looked for with much anxiety by the Provincial Government of Quebec, who are only waiting for their appearance to pass a law for regulating the examination of pilots for the river, touching their necessary qualification. The erection of three new light-houses in different parts of the river has been already offered, at the suggestion of Commander Bayfield, which will materially contribue to the safety of its navigation."

Skating.—On Tuesday a party of gentlemen started from Philadelphia for Bristol, taking the "river road," or rather skating thither on the Deleware. The distance travelled must have been, as they compute, about 25 miles, which they were one hour and forty-six minutes in performing! After refreshing themselves they returned by the same independant and delightful mode of travelling.

ICE BOAT.

The Providence Journal describes an ice boat, invented by capt. Geo. L. Brown, which has been plying of late in the harbor of that town, and been found very useful. "It is of very simple construction, its runners being three pieces of small joist, connected by cross-pieces and braces, on which are supported seats for a few passengers, and two canvass sails. It steers easily, and, before the wind, it will, with a good breeze, move at the rate of thirty miles an hour, or more; and we are informed by a gentleman who took an excursion in it on Saturday afternoon, that, with a strong breeze at the northwest, they held a southwesterly course, at the rate of a mile in three minutes. The ice was far from being smooth; but had it been of that kind known among skaters as 'black duck,' the speed must have been doubled." This boat rendered great assistance a few days ago, when a loaded sled crossing the ice, on the way to Pawtucket, broke in, and the cattle were in danger of perishing.

A fellow by the name of Brown, but a few days released from the penitentiary in New-Orleans, committed two murders during the last week in January, the more atrocious because in one case wanton and unprovoked: and in the other, he was entirely the aggressor.—It seems that in passing a sailor, who was quietly eating his dinner, Brown stole his handkerchief. The sailor, whose name was Boaden, pursued him—a scuffle ensued—and the sailor was stabbed to the heart. In the other case, there appears to have been not even the apology of a scuffle for the deed.

POTATO-ONIONS.

SOME of these onions have been left with the Publisher of the *Farmer*, for sale, by Mr. Barker. (See Farmer no 7, page 51, for directions for cultivating them.)

GARDEN SEEDS.

THE subscribers are now ready to receive the spring orders of their customers, having received by the Sovereign, from London, and by arrivals from France and Holland, a choice assortment of Garden, Field & Flower seeds—among which, are many fine sorts of early Cabbage; early and late Cauliflower; purple Cape Brocole; early scarlet Radish; Mangel Wurzell: Sir John Sinclair's new Silver Beets, (a very luxuriant and valuable vegetable); *Bishop's early Dwarf Prolific Peas*, 75 cents per quart. These peas need no recommendation; many who had them last season attest to their superior quality—they were introduced by a Scotch Gardener, named Bishop, 1827, in London, and so great was their reputation, that they sold for one guinea per pint; they are remarkably early, very productive, and grow only twelve inches high—should be planted three inches apart, as they spread like a fan; they commence blooming when only three inches high

Also, a few pounds superior white Mulberry Seed, growth 1830, price 50 cents per oz. or 6 dolls. per pound; Perennial Rye Grass; Orchard Grass; fine early Potatoes; English Windsor Beans; Green Nonpareil Beans, &c. &c.

Bird Seed of every sort: fresh Embden Grotts; Oat Meal; Barley Meal; Rice Flour; Shaker's Parched Corn; Medicinal Herbs; Barks and Roots in great variety.

Also, 40 bushels fine white Mustard Seed, received by the Columbia and Hudson, late London arrivals; this Seed was selected expressly for Medicine—is quite free of dust and impurity

Gentlemen supplied with Gardeners, by the day, month or year. G. THORBURN & SON.

Feb. 22—G F 6 w 67 Liberty street, New York.

ROCHESTER PRICES CURRENT.
Feb. 25, 1831.

Ashes per 2240 lbs		Mink	12a31
Pot	$91a92 50	Raccoon	18a31
Pearl	100a102 50	Martin	25a62
Apples per bushel	25a44	Fisher	37a50
Do dried	75	Wild Cat	18a25
Bristles, comb'd per lb	20a31	Gray Fox	18a25
Beeswax do	18a20	Grass Seed per bush	62
Butter do	10a12	Hops per lb	12a15
Beef—Mess per bbl	$8a9	Honey do	09
Do prime do	5a7	Lard do	06a07
Do fresh per lb	02a03	Mutton do	02a03
Barley per bushel	38a44	Mustard Seed per bush	$3
Beans do	50a62	Oats per bush	25
Candles, mould per lb	9 cts	Old Pewter, Brass and Copper per lb	14
Do dipped do	8 "	Peaches, dry'd bush	100a200
Do sperm do	28 "	Pork, mess per bbl	$12a13
Corn per bushel	44a50	Do prime	8a9
Cheese per lb	04a05	Do fresh per lb	03a04
Clover Seed per bush	$4 50	Quills per 100	25a30
Flour per bbl	5 50	Rye per bush	50
Flax per lb	07a08	Rags per lb	03a04
Flax Seed per bush	78a87	Salt per bbl	$1 75
Feathers per lb	31a37	Tallow per lb	06a07
Furs—Otter	100a400	Wheat per bush	103a109
Fox, red	50a75	Buckwheat flour, cwt.	$1 75
Fox, cross	100a200		

METEOROLOGICAL TABLE,
for the week ending Feb. 19, 1831.

Days	Ther morn	Ther even	Barom't'r morn	Barom't'r even	Winds morn	Winds even	Weather clear	Weather cl'dy	Weather rainy	Weather high winds	Observa'ns
13	16	3	29,98	30,15	n w	w	1				
14	20	18	30,20	30,02	s w	c	1				
15	36	30	29,90	29,58	s	s e		1	1		1-10 in. r'n
16	45	36	29,23	29,15	s w	w		1	1		1-2 in. rain
17	28	16	29,36	29,52	w	n w		1		1	snow 1 in.
18	24	32	29,57	29,20	w	s w		1		1	
19	34	23	29,22	29,40	n w	n w		1			snow 2 in.

☞ *The Barometrical and Thermometrical observations are registered at 10 o'clock A. M. and P. M., which by a long series of experiments made for the purpose, show that time to give a nearer mean average of the relative heat of a day than any other time.*

BANK NOTE TABLE.
Corrected Weekly for the Rochester Daily Advertiser.

BY C. W. DUNDAS.

NEW-YORK.
All banks in this state, *par*, except the following
Broken Banks. Washington & Warren, Barker's Exchange, Franklin Bank, Middle Dist., Columbia, Greene County, Marble Manuf. Co., Plattsburgh, and Niagara.

MASSACHUSETTS.
Al banks in this state, *par*, except the following
Broken Banks. Farmers' b'ak of Belchertown, Sutton, Berkshire, Essex and Brighton banks.

VERMONT.
All banks in this state, *par.*

RHODE-ISLAND
All banks in this state, *par*, except the following
Broken Banks. Farmers' Exchange, and Farmers' & Mechanics' banks.

CONNECTICUT.
All banks in this state, *par*, except the following
Broken Banks. Eagle, Eagle pay'ble at Union bank New-York, Derby, and Derby payable at Fulton bank New-York.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE.
All banks in this state, *par.*

MAINE.
All banks in this state, *par*, except the following
Broken Banks. Castine, Wiscasset, Hallowell & Augusta, Kennebec, and Passamaqnoddy banks.

NEW-JERSEY.
State b'nk, & Trenton Banking Company, *par.*
All other banks, 2 *per cent*, except the following
Broken Banks. Salem & Phil. Manuf. Co., Monmouth, Hoboken and Grazing Co., N. Jersey Manuf. & Banking Co. at Hoboken, State Bank at Trenton, Protection and Lombard, and Jersey City.

PENNSYLVANIA.
Philadelphia Banks, *par.*
All other banks, 2 *per cent*, except the following
Broken Banks. Farmers' & Mechanics' at N. Sa., Centre, Huntington, Meadville, Marietta, Juniata, Greencastle, Bedford, Beaver, Washington, Uniontown, Agricultural, Sil. Lake, Westmoreland at Greenburgh, New-Hope Bridge Co. new emission, and Brownvile banks.

OHIO.
All banks, 4 *to* 6 *per cent*,

MICHIGAN.
All banks, 2 *per cent*, except the following
Broken Banks. Monroe, and Detroit.

CANADA.
All banks, 2 *to* 3 *per cent*, except the Upper Cana. at Kingston, and Unchartered banks.

☞ *The above table when speaking of* foreign Bills, *refers to those of* $5, *and over, as none of a less denomination are receivable.*

Pleasant is the joy of grief! it is like the shower of spring, when it softens the branch of the oak, and the young leaf lifts its green head.—*Ossian.*

It is notorious to philosophers, that joy and grief can hasten and delay time. Locke is of opinion, that a man in great misery may so far lose his measure, as to think a minute an hour; or in joy make an hour a minute.

MUSIC FROM SHORE.

By Mrs. Hemans.

A sound comes on the rising breeze,
A sweet and lovely sound!
Piercing the tumult of the seas,
That wildly dash around.

From land, from sunny land it comes,
From hills with murmuring trees,
From paths by still and happy homes—
That sweet sound on the breeze!

Why should its faint and passing sigh
Thus bid *my* quick pulse leap?
—No part in earth's glad melody
Is mine upon the deep.

Yet blessing, blessing on the spot
Whence those rich breathings flow!
Kind hearts, although they know me not,
Like mine must beat and glow.

And blessings, from the bark that roams
O'er solitary seas,
To those that far in happy homes
Give sweet sounds to the breeze?

MISCELLANEOUS.

THE HORSE.

The Horse, which did not exist in the new continent before the arrival of Europeans is spread in Europe, and in Iceland, as far as beyond the polar circle. In Asia the horse is scarcely found beyond the 64th parallel; in America the race has spread to the country of Patagonia, the climate of which, under the 50th degree of south latitude, answers to the climates of the northern hemisphere lying under the 60th parallel.

It appears to us, that there were in the old continent at least *three original races of horses.* The first, and the best proportioned, was originally spread between the 40th and 55th parallels, and probably came from Great Bucharia, from Persia, or even from Asia Minor.

The Tartar steeds, and those of Poland and Hungary, seem to have preserved the original form of the breed. In countries that are moderately damp and cold, and where there is rich pasturage, this race has become larger & stronger. The forms which are best developed have acquired that symmetry, and that noble warlike gait which mark the Danish, Norman, and English horses. These, however, have been mixed with the Arabian race. The third variety of the first race is a degenerate breed, produced by the deteriorating influence of a climate excessively damp; we may even trace the different degrees of this degeneracy. The horses of the country of Bremen have their feet worse made than those of Holstein and Jutland. As we prooed to East Friesland, their shape grows more and more clumsy.

The second race is small, and sometimes almost dwarfish; its characteristics are a compact square form, endowed with great strength and surprizing agility. It appears to derive its origin from the northern upland plains of Asia, from the steppes of Kirgnises, although Pallas looks upon the wild horses of these countries as having come from the Studs.—This race, according to some accounts, appears to be spread in the north of India, in China, & in the islands of Japan. It is more certain that the breed is common in Russia and in Scandinavia. The Norwegians introduced it into Iceland and Scotland. It exists in the Danish Island of Zeeland.

The third race of horses is possessed of the most showy properties, being extremly swift, supple, vigorous, and mettlesome. We mean the "Arab race," which undoubtedly has a common origin with that of Barbary, if it has not given birth to it. The Andalusian horses are its lineal descendants. The English say that their race horses are directly sprung from crossing the Arab with the Barbary. History proves, that the Romans, the Saxons, the Danes, and the Normans, by introducing into Britain the various races of their respective countries, laid the foundation of the English breed. Private persons afterward, from time to time, imported Arabian and Barbary stallions.—*Malte-brun.*

BANK STATISTICS.

Table shewing the amount of capital in several of our principal cities, the amount of dividends, and the amount of notes discounted during the last year.

Cities.	Capital.	Div'nds.	Discounted
New-York	18,138,000	1,037,700	103,769,952
Brooklyn	300,000	21,000	2,099,963
Albany	1,576,600	301,248	9,792,801
Troy	1,018,000	61,840	6,183,596
Hartford	3,859,000	159,540	15,952,964
New-London	247,687	15,452	1,545,964
Newport	595,000	19.400	1,939,964
Providence	4,324,950	276,692	27,572,184
Boston	13,900,000	703,500	70,349,968
Portland	1,850,000	36,000	3,919,968
Dist. Columbia	3,895,350	186,702	18,670,184
Richmond	2,517,500	151,025	15,102,462
Norfolk	1,460,000	85,300	9,240,816
Charleston	4,975,000	371,000	34,341,632
Savannah	2,600,000	146 600	14 661 148
Augusta	1 400 000	60 000	5 999 968
Baltimore	6 888 691	362 118	36 211 864
Philadelphia	10 792 000	693 075	69 307 472
New-Orleans	10 000 000	542 500	54 249 988
Few-Haven	840 000	27 200	2 720 016
Portsmouth	775 000	22 100	2 310 056
Salem	1 450 000	60 500	6 049 992
Totals	93 394 778	1 140 492	511 992 927

TAXATION.

The following is said to be a correct view of the relative taxation of the principal European States:—

	per head. £.	s.	d.	
England,	3	0	5	
France,	1	6	8	
The Netherlands,	1	2	6	
Sweden,	1	1	6	
Hesse Darmstadt,	0	12	2	1-2
Prussia,	0	12	1	
Hesse Cassel,	0	12	0	
Saxony,	0	11	3	
Sardinia,	0	11	2	
Denmark,	0	10	4	
Baden,	0	10	19	
Brunswick,	0	10	0	
Spain,	0	9	0	
Hanover,	0	8	9	
Tuscany,	0	8	8	
Naples,	0	8	8	
Bavaria,	0	8	7	1-2
Wurtemburgh,	0	8	1	1 2
Austria,	0	6	7	1-2
Norway,	0	6	6	
Poland,	0	4	8	
Russia,	0	4	7	
Roman States,	0	4	4	
Mecklin Schwerin,	0	3	5	

BERYL.

The following paragraph is circulating in the papers:

A Beryl.—There is at St. Petersburgh, says the Mining Journal, published there, a beryl, found three years ago near Murzinkaja, in the district of Catherineburg, which is above 11 pounds in weight, and valued at £27,000.

This is a large and precious beryl, but small both in size and value, if value go with size, compared with the one named in the following statement, made to the Troy Sentinel by Professor Eaton, of the Rensselaer School. After referring to the Russian beryl, he says:

"A poor laboring man has got out a beryl from a rock in Ackworth, New Hampshire, which weighs between 50 and 100 pounds.—This I judge from its size; I have not seen it weighed. He called at the Rensselaer School about a fortnight ago. He said he should leave this, together with others of smaller size, either in Troy or Albany, until the river opens. It is a most perfect six-sided chrystal, over 16 inches long, and 14 in its greatest diagonal diameter."

CHAPTER OF CRIME IN NEW YORK.

During the year 1830, as appears from a careful examination of the records kept by the clerk of the Oyer and Terminer and Court of Sessions, there were seven hundred and seventy-three persons sentenced by those Courts to imprisonment, as follows:—to the State Prison 137, Penitentiary 590, City Prison 37, and to the House of Refuge 9.

The following enumeration of the character and grades of offence, of which they, with others who were discharged with fines, were severally committed, is derived officially from the same source.

Petit Larceny	463	Swindling	8
Assault and Battery	142	Forgery, 2d degree	10
Grand Larceny	68	Do. 3d degree	1
Burglary, 1st degree	9	Perjury	1
Do. 2d degree	12	Breaking Prison	6
Do. 3d degree	12	Highway Robbery	1
Bigamy	4	Attempt to poison	1
Assault & Battery with intent to kill	5	Attempt to commit arson	1
		Petit Larceny, 2d offence	4
Receiving stolen goods	10	Keeping disorderly house	7
Manslaughter	2	Libel	1

THE GATHERER.

"A snapper up of unconsidered trifles."—*Shaks.*

Cato, the Censor, being scurrilously treated by a fellow who led a licentious and dissolute life, a "contest," said he, "between thee and me is very unequal, for thou canst bear ill language with ease, and return it with pleasure; but as for my part, 'tis unusual for me to hear it, and disagreeable to speak it."

Spectacles were first invented by Spina, a monk of Pisa, in the year 1200.

Men show particular folly on five different occasions: When they establish their fortune on the ruin of others; when they expect to excite love by coldness, and by showing more marks of dislike than affection; when they wish to become learned in the midst of repose and pleasure; when they seek friends without making any advances of friendship; and when they are unwilling to succour their friends in distress.

Spinning wheels were first invented at Brunswick, in Germany, in 1630.

To delicate minds, the unfortunate are always objects of respect; as the ancients held sacred those places which had been blasted by lightning, so the feeling heart considers the afflicted as touched by the hand of God himself.

Like dogs in a wheel, birds in a cage, or squirrels in chain, ambitious men still climb and climb, with great labor and incessant anxiety, but never reach the top.

The brain of a hasty man is like a sooty chimney; it is continually in danger of taking fire from the flames beneath. The brain of a well ordered and quiet citizen is like a chimney newly swept; the sparks of passion pass through it, and escape without danger into the cooler regions of thought and reflection.

Flowers of rhetoric in sermons and serious discourses, are like the blue and red flowers in corn—pleasing to those who come only for amusement, but prejudicial to him who would reap the profit from it.

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